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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I have used the same internet provider for many years, LMI.net, which is based only a few blocks away from my home office in Berkeley, California. I want to be able to keep this provider and NOT have to choose a national giant, because of the long-time relationship and local service that LMI.net has provided for me and their other customers in the San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California.

Capitalism is based on competition, so that we consumers can choose which company provides the best service for our needs. I am also a business customer who runs a small business, and I find that it is incredibly helpful to be able to get customer support by phone without being on hold for a long time, with someone who knows my account, and I can even walk into LMI's office in person if I need tech support. In fact, at one point, they even sent one of their tech team members to my home office, when I needed troubleshooting for my internet connection there. I would not be able to get the same level of personalized service from a large national carrier.

I am currently attempting to change from DSL to Fiber, and I am hoping to be able to stay with LMI.net at approximately the current cost, or it will really create a hardship for my small business, which is very reliant on a quality broadband connection. I also spend part of my time in a rural area in Northern California, where LMI.net also has some customers, and another local network there is MCN, upon which many residents and businesses rely (in Mendocino County, California).

We need to maintain the basic capitalist ideal of non-monopoly, of supporting small and mid-sized businesses, nonprofits, and the large number of freelance workers and consultants who rely on local broadband service, and cannot afford significant rate increases. Please listen to the small businesses and workers of the United States of America, and maintain broadband competition, as well as net neutrality.

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